

Editorial

The monograph-length paper presented here to readers of *Computers and Mathematics with Applications* represents, on the one hand, only the second departure from our normal publication process in our 25 year history; and on the other, very good adherence to our announced aims.

Seven years ago, we published our first monograph-length work, which took up an entire issue of this Journal, entitled "Ocean Acoustic Propagation by Finite Difference Methods". The reason for deciding to publish it, despite its length, was that not only did it present research of the highest quality, but it also fulfilled all of the stated aims of this Journal.

In addition to its obviously high quality, we decided to publish the work here presented as a single issue for slightly different, yet similar, reasons. This work does not deal with the application of some physical field such as acoustics; rather, it reformulates certain mathematical concepts and notations in such a way as to make them much more accessible to utilization on the computer. It therefore clearly contains "computers and mathematics".

However, for any such massive reformulation of a well-known concept or method, it is necessary to provide ample justification. It is that aspect which makes "Convolution Number", as a paper, so very long. On the other hand, it seemed to us that there could be little justification to publish it as a book. Hence, the coalescence of these reasons made us decide to take the route presented in this issue.

We hope and trust that our readers will concur with our decision and find the work here presented as interesting and as potentially useful, as we did.

Ervin Y. Rodin
Editor in Chief